



Roman Holiday **Summer Studies** **Programme** **July 2027**

**Spend a month in Rome
Develop your confidence,
independence and global perspective
while earning a high school credit**

**Credits offered in AVI4M ENG4U,
ETS4U, HRE4M, LVV4U, PLF4U**

**For more information contact
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www.romanholiday.ca

Roman Holiday Summer Studies Programme – July 2027

Rationale

Since 2002, the *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* programme has offered students the opportunity to study in Rome, Italy during the month of July. Incorporating innovative classroom instruction and exciting daily activities in and around the Eternal City, these summer courses promise to deliver the experience of a lifetime as well as Grade 12 academic level credits that you can depend on.

Founded by Mr. Santino Bellisario, former teacher with the Toronto Catholic District School Board, as well as former Head of English at Toronto's prestigious De La Salle College "Oaklands" for nearly thirty years and former headmaster at Canadian College Italy in Lanciano, the *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* programme lets students discover the cultural treasures of the Eternal City and Florence, enriching their classroom experiences. The significant contribution of Roman and Italian culture to Western civilization, from classical antiquity to the modern age, from Marcus Aurelius to Umberto Eco, serve as the themes that draw together all the great works studied. Our daily tours of Rome, a storehouse of art and history, allow students to form a better understanding of the "great conversations" that define Western culture such as the role of spiritual faith, the challenges of democracy, and the rule of law.

Teachers with many years of experience in their chosen fields teach and supervise in the *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* programme. They guarantee the highest quality of instruction and the integrity of the credits delivered. As such, the *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* programme grants these credits as an independently-run and privately-owned high school representing the very highest academic standards and ensuring consistency of programming with existing English courses accredited by the Ministry of Education in Ontario. This is what sets our programme apart from other summer credit course programmes. Students earn high school credits and experience the trip of a life time.

Credit Granting Programme

This programme is made available to Grade 10 and 11 students through *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* with the participation of several independent, private, and public schools. Teachers employed by our programme are certified Ontario College of Teachers. The credits are granted by *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* through the Ontario Ministry of Education. The three senior English courses offered (ENG4U, ETS4U and EWC4U) require Grade 11 English as a prerequisite. Classical Civilisations LVV4U requires Grade 10 English Academic as its prerequisite, Church and Culture HRE4M requires Grade 11 University Religion or Grade 11 University English and Visual Arts AVI4M requires Grade 11 Visual Arts, University Level.

Courses Offered for 2026-2027

AVI4M Grade 12 Visual Arts in Rome will engage students with an exploration of artworks and the personal creative process. This Ontario curriculum course focuses on exploring art, developing drawing skills, and creating personal work inspired by diverse traditions and artistic contexts. Students will study,

respond to, and make meaningful art, strengthening their visual understanding and artistic voice in one of the world's great cultural centers. *Prerequisite:* Grade 11 Visual Arts.

ENG4U Grade 12 English focuses on refining students' literacy, communication, and critical thinking skills through the study of complex literary, informational, and media texts. Students analyze a range of Canadian and global works, develop independent interpretations, and produce clear, well-organized oral, written, and media texts. The course emphasizes sophisticated language use, research skills, and preparation for university, college, and workplace pathways. *Prerequisite:* Grade 11 English.

ETS4U Studies in Literature This course is designed for students with a passion for literature and literary criticism. Focusing on specific themes, genres, time periods, or countries, students analyze various literary forms and stylistic elements. They evaluate critical interpretations, engage in analytical essays, and complete an independent study project, refining their critical thinking, research, and communication skills for postsecondary studies. *Prerequisite:* Grade 11 English

HRE4M This course deepens understanding of Catholic moral life as a call to follow Jesus Christ. Grounded in Scripture, Revelation, philosophy, and science, students examine justice, peace, and ethical decision-making. Emphasizing a virtuous, sacramental life, students apply Catholic moral principles personally and socially while refining research skills. Taught in Rome, students experience faith in the Eternal City.. *Prerequisite:* Any Grade 11 or Grade 12 course in Social Sciences and Humanities, English, or Canadian and World Studies.

LVV4U This course introduces students to the enduring cultural legacy of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds. Students investigate classical mythology, literature, art, architecture, philosophy, science, and technology. By examining ancient works in English translation and analyzing archaeological material culture, students refine their critical thinking, research, and communication skills. The course also introduces foundational Latin and Greek vocabulary, encouraging students to draw meaningful connections between antiquity, modern society, and their own experiences. *Prerequisite:* Grade 10 English.

PLF4U Recreation and Healthy Active Living Leadership. This course, which is offered in Varese, Italy, prepares students to plan, lead, and promote healthy active living across diverse school and community settings. Students examine leadership styles, group dynamics, event management, and motivational techniques needed to run physical activities and programs. By mentoring others and practicing effective communication, students build real-world leadership, conflict resolution, and organization skills. *Prerequisite:* Any Grade 11 or 12 course in Health and Physical Education.

Participants

Students

Students will be selected for admission to this programme according to several criteria:

- Successful completion of prerequisite courses
- Interview with Programme Coordinator
- Demonstration of respect for other people and cultures

Interested students will be invited to apply by submitting registration forms, and in some cases, a letter of reference from a school administrator. This could be from the principal or head of

guidance. All participants will also be expected to complete a Parent/Guardian Consent Form for International Excursions issued by Canada Customs. The limitations of responsibilities with respect to this programme are also indicated in one of the application forms from *Roman Holiday Summer Studies*.

Code of Conduct Guidelines

Every student must sign a binding Code of Conduct commitment before joining the programme, which includes the following guidelines:

- **Respect & Well-Being:** Treat all peers, teachers, and adult supervisors with dignity. Safeguard personal and institutional property.
- **Zero Tolerance Policy:** Harassment, bullying, discrimination, and abusive verbal or physical behavior are strictly forbidden.
- **Substance Prohibition:** Use, possession, or distribution of alcohol, illegal drugs, or unauthorized controlled substances is grounds for immediate dismissal.
- **Rights & Responsibilities:** Adhere to clearly defined participant roles to maintain a healthy, safe, and productive learning environment. Non-compliance results in disciplinary action.

Adult Supervision

Teachers and supervisors in *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* will use a ratio of 1 adult for every 12 students taking part in the programme. Supervision is continuous throughout the programme meaning that all major tours and excursions into the city will be supervised. However, at times students will be allowed to travel in groups of three and four during the day (usually for lunch) and in the evening around our hotel just before curfew. At those times students may not be in the company of teachers or adult supervisors.

Our teachers also see the experience of travel abroad as opportunities for their own personal and professional development as they work closely with students daily. They see the personal and academic success of their students as one of their primary goals in the programme. Instruction for the preliminary lessons in Toronto will be led by these teachers, who will also accompany their students to Rome, Italy.

Interviews

Each applicant and his/her parents may be invited to an interview with the Programme Coordinator to assess his/her suitability for the programme. These will take place usually at the day school that students attend. This will also give the applicant and parents the opportunity to determine if the programme serves their needs and interests. Upon request, school letters of reference should come from Principals or Guidance heads. Letters from outside the school may come from parish priests, employers or other adults in positions of responsibility. Each applicant will be asked to bring letters of reference to this meeting as well as their most recent report card. Interviews will take place in the fall of 2026. All deposits will be refundable if the applicant does not enroll in the programme.

Information Meetings

The programme will require that students and/or their parents attend at least two information meetings during the regular school year. These usually take place in the second week of October and the first week of April. The meetings will include a review of programme requirements and behavioral expectations. They will also cover a host of topics related to the programme such as safety, travel preparations and tips, as well as academic assignments.

Travel Arrangements

Health and Safety

Careful attention to sound health and safety practices forms an important part of the preparation for this programme. This will involve healthy eating, exercise, and leisure habits, understand effective illness prevention practices and check for appropriate immunizations when travelling abroad. It also requires that students adhere to the rules and regulations of the programme. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary actions including contacting parents. Any behaviours that threaten the safety and security of students and/or their peers also can result in expulsion from the programme.

Immunization

The following are ordinarily administered through one's family doctor in the course of traditional Ontario health care coverage. All participants are asked to ensure their protection with inoculations against the following diseases:

- Measles-Mumps-Rubella
- Tetanus-Diphtheria-Polio
- Hepatitis A

Transportation

Local transportation including a public transit monthly pass and charter buses will be organized and provided by local professionals in Rome, Italy included in the cost of the programme. Students can anticipate exploring much of the city and their local neighbourhood on foot. Also, we will arrange air travel through one of our national carriers such as Air Canada or Air Transit Airlines for our international air travel.

Accommodation

In Rome, Italy, we will stay at a four-star hotel within the city limits of the city. Teachers and adult supervisors will reside near students, usually on the same floor, and always in the same

hotel. We will ensure appropriate separation of male and female students at the hotel. Failure to respect trip rules and guidelines could result in suspension or expulsion from the programme. All classes and meals will take place on site at the hotel, which is also conveniently located within minutes of major tourist sites in the city and public transportation. The hotel also has a swimming pool supervised by a certified life-guard. Use of the pool requires that students sign a waiver form or demonstrate swimming ability before departure day.

Finances

Barring any unanticipated fuel tax levied by the airline, the cost of the trip is \$7,999. This includes air and land transportation, all breakfasts and dinners at the hotel. In addition, it includes all entry fees to museums, churches, and other historical landmarks. As well, the cost of the trip includes a day trip to Florence, Italy, some of the local towns in and around Rome and an end-of-trip dinner back in Toronto. It also includes most of the expenses associated with the study component such as activity booklets and reading anthologies. The only expenses NOT INCLUDED are the purchase of core texts and novels, personal expenses, spending money, health and flight insurance, passport renewal, visa, and special inoculations.

- a) A deposit cheque of \$1500.00 made payable to *Roman Holiday Summer Studies* or an electronic money transfer to santino.bellisario@romanholiday.ca must accompany this application.
- b) The final payment is expected by Thursday, April 1, 2027.

Refund Policy

For withdrawal before January 31, 2027 a full refund minus \$150 for administrative costs will be required. Additional cancellation charges will apply based on the date we receive notice of cancellation.

- 45 days and prior: \$1000.00
- 45 to 21 days before departure: 50% of total price
- Less than 21 days before departure: no refund

Website

More information about the programme is also available on the *Roman Holiday* web site at www.romanholiday.ca. Once students receive approval for enrollment in the programme, they can complete a series of supplemental travel forms which they can download from the web site. These should be printed, completed, and submitted to their teachers once students receive initial approval into the programme. Students can also download additional course materials such as audio files and videos as well as travel information in professional document format (pdf) from the web site. These also include text versions of course novels and other texts, supplemental readings, assessments, and evaluation forms.

Enrollment

Registration in the programme begins by submitting printed or electronic copies of the application forms that accompany this document. Print, complete and submit these forms along with a cheque or electronic money transfer for the initial deposit of \$1500 addressed to "Roman Holiday Summer Studies."

Contact Information

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